Application No.: 09/876,173

Response dated October 31, 2008

Reply to Non-Final Office Action of August 8, 2008

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The non-final Office Action of August 8, 2008, has been carefully reviewed and these

remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are

respectfully requested. Pursuant to 37 CFR 41.33(b)(1), claims 5-6 have been canceled without

prejudice or disclaimer per this amendment. Claims 1-4, 8-9, and 11-40 remain pending.

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for allegedly failing to

particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as their

invention. Without acquiescing to the rejection and in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants

have canceled claims 5 and 6 without prejudice or disclaimer in order to expedite prosecution.

As such, the present rejection is rendered moot.

If any required fees are due or if an overpayment has been made the Commissioner is

authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Date: October 31, 2008

By: /John M. Fleming/

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